

BARRE GAZETTE

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Quabbin schools test mostly above average for air exchange

By Ellenor Downer
Staff Writer

BARRE – Back in October the school district hired Pioneer Valley Environmental to test all the Quabbin Regional School District schools to make sure the air exchange was adequate.

Superintendent Sheila Muir said these companies were “extremely busy.” The district received the air exchange report. The acceptable air exchange rate should be 4.00. At Ruggles Lane Elementary School

the air exchange rates in the various classrooms ranged from 5.99 to 8.33. The Hubbardston Center School rooms all tested above 4.00, as did the Hardwick Elementary School and Oakham Center School.

The Quabbin Regional Middle High School had one room with two units that tested lower than 4.00. The room H127 tested 3.72 and H 125, 3.98. Heating coils collect dust. They will be cleaned and the large room retested. The middle school gym tested at 0.57. Dust collection on the heating coils most

likely was part of the problem in the gym also. Cheryl Duval, director of administrative services, said Pioneer Valley Environment did not test all the air diffusers in the middle school gym and would be coming back to do that. The superintendent said because of the low reading in the gym, students were not using the gym, but using the high school gym. The other tested okay.

Two classrooms at the New Braintree Grade School were also tested. One room tested at 3.00 and

might have ice storm damage to the coils, which would be checked.

COVID testing pools

Superintendent Muir said the Department of Education planned to hold COVID-19 testing pools. Under the pool testing, schools would have access to COVID testing for students and staff member in a cohort. If the cohort tests came back negative, then from the results, it would assume all in the cohort were negative. If the test came back positive, then the results would assume at least one

was positive. With a positive result, all in the cohort would be tested and quarantined. This was a way to identify those asymptomatic for COVID. The program would initially be free and afterwards the cost would be \$5 per test. The program could start in early February. Permission must be granted for the testing.

COVID cases

The superintendent said several weeks ago she sent a letter every single day of one or two COVID cases. There were eight students

positive as of Jan. 11. Twenty-eight quarantined with 16 in one cohort because of close contact with a staff member, who tested positive. She said she would be updating every Monday with staff, parents and on the website. Supt. Muir said she did not believe anyone contacted the virus in the district buildings, but elsewhere.

School meals

Cheryl Duval said 410 students were served school meals for 5,740

See QRSD, page 5

Gretchen Nahkala receives Shillelagh Award

By Ellenor Downer
Staff Writer

OAKHAM – Gretchen Nahkala received a Shillelagh and a citation from the Massachusetts State Senate last Thursday, Jan. 14. Her nomination letter said, “Gretchen (McCarthy) Nahkala shows the true Irish spirit.”

Nominees for a Shillelagh Award do not need to be of Irish descent. They are honored for their generosity, compassion, enthusiasm, kindness and sense of humor that reflects the Irish spirit.

Gretchen has Irish ancestry. Her McCarthy relatives came from Munster, a province in Southwestern Ireland and Ireland's largest province.

About 20 relatives and friends wearing masks, along with the Shillelagh Award presenters Theresa Kane, former state Senator Stephen Brewer and state Senator Anne Gobi, stood outside Nahkala's home.

Brewer presented the Shillelagh, a thick stick of blackthorn used in Ireland as a walking stick and/or club. Theresa Kane, chief operating officer for the Polus Center of Social and Economic Development, Inc. of Petersham, said, “We ordered the Shillelachs from Ireland back in November so we would receive them in time.” The Polus Center, a non-profit, sponsored the first ever event in March 2018 and have done so every year since as a fundraiser.

Former Sen. Brewer read the nomination letter to Gretchen



Gretchen Nahkala shows her wonderful smile and Irish spirit.

State Senator Anne Gobi reads a citation through a window from the Massachusetts State Senate to Gretchen Nahkala during the presentation ceremony at Gretchen's Oakham home.

before handing her the Shillelagh. The letter said, “Gretchen (McCarthy) Nahkala shows the true Irish spirit. She is proud of her Irish heritage and hosts St. Patrick Day parties at her home in Oakham. She believes in community service. She was the ambulance director in Oakham until 2019

when the town switched to Rutland for ambulance service. Gretchen, a dental hygienist, appeared at schools as the ‘Tooth Fairy’ to promote good oral hygiene. She handed out toothbrushes and toothpaste to the children.

She founded the annual Easter egg hunt, sponsored by the

Oakham Congregational Church and headed the event for many years. When her two children, Jake and Jane, were in band, she was president of Quabbin Pro Musica, an organization that supports the music program at Quabbin

See SHILLELAGH, page 6

Town clerk announces town election information

BARRE – Town clerk, Ellen Glidden listed information on the annual town election set for April 5. The following people took out nomination papers. Papers have not been returned unless noted.

They included:

Moderator for one-year Joshua E. Smith, 80 Pleasant St., candidate for re-election

Board of Selectmen for 3-year term Troy Lee Valardi, 287 Cole Road

John F. Carbone, 280 Hardwick Road

Board of Assessors for 3-year term no papers out

Board of Health for 3-year term Michael B. Radesky, 21 Grove St. South (papers returned)

Water Commissioner for 3-year term Ronald A. Hosley, 169 Dana Road, candidate for re-election

Sewer Commissioner for 3 year term) John J. Chase, 120 Hardwick Road, candidate for re-election

Barre Housing Authority Member for 5-year term Susan E. LaRose, 196 Mechanic St., candidate for re-election

Felton Field Commissioner for 3-year term Justin C. Pollard, 291 Loring Road

Library Trustees two positions for 3-year terms

David A. Deschamps, 481 Britton Rd East 2024 candidate for re-election (papers returned)

Cherie E. Benoit, 49 Nelson Way, candidate for re-election

Planning Board Associate Member for 1-year term

Frank W. LaRange, 711 South Barre Rd 2022

Anthony I. Mobilio, 414

See TOWN ELECTION, page 6

Detective Chatigny violates conflict of interest law

HUBBARDSTON – This week the town received notification Hubbardston Police Detective Scott Chatigny admitted to the State Ethics Commission that he violated the Massachusetts conflict of interest law in 2016. Detective Chatigny paid a \$10,000 fine for this violation and signed an agreement with the State Ethics Commission.

In response to this notification,

town officials placed Detective Chatigny on administrative leave with pay beginning Jan. 14, 2021. This administrative leave allows time for town officials to complete an internal investigation and hold a meeting to gather additional information. The meeting is expected to take place the week of Jan. 18 in executive session with the Hubbardston Select Board.

Barre group make child friendly fabric masks



These are some of the colorful, cloth masks a group of women made for Ruggles Lane Elementary School students in Barre and other schools in the district.

Turley Publication
Courtesy Photo

By Ellenor Downer
Staff Writer

BARRE – During the COVID-19 pandemic, a group of women from Barre made over 400 cloth masks for students at Ruggles Lane Elementary School and other schools in the Quabbin district.

Pat Kowal, who worked at the school before retiring, asked Quabbin Regional School District School Committee member, David Deschamps, what a group of quilters could do to help the schools

during the pandemic.

Although the school supplied disposable masks for its students, the cloth masks had ties to make it easier to adjust the masks to the children's faces. They were washable, more comfortable than paper masks and used colorful fabric with many of them made from designs such as fire apparatus, trucks, animals and flowers, which children love.

The group of women, all accomplished quilters and sewers, included: Eileen Bohigian, Marilyn Haynes, Vickie King, Pat Kowal, Cathy Miknaitis, Sandy Moran, Barbara Potter, Carol Stanley,

See MASKS, page 6

Barre Fire Department rescues downed horse



Using a sling, firefighters finally got the horse that slipped in its paddock back on its feet.

By Paula Quimette
Staff Writer

BARRE — At approximately 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 15, Rutland Regional Emergency Communications Center (RRECC) received a call seeking assistance for a 30-year-old horse that had slipped in its paddock and was unable to get up. The owner of the horse, with the help of friends and neighbors, had tried unsuccessfully to get the elderly animal standing. When horses are lying down for long periods of time, they are

in danger of having blood flow restricted to their internal organs and legs. The cold temperatures and frozen ground can increase the risk of injury, or even death, for downed horses.

This is the second large animal rescue Barre Fire Department has performed since May 2020. They are part of Fire District 8 and they have a technical rescue team. District 8 spans from Hardwick all the way out to the Devens area. Barre Fire Department houses a vast amount of technical rescue equipment, as do other towns,



A veterinarian was on hand to check on the downed horse once it was standing again.

and they often share resources. Providing a large animal rescue sled for this incident, was Holden Fire Department. Barre Fire Department and other towns in District 8, train regularly for rescue missions such as this.

The effort to get this horse standing again, required 13 emergency personnel from Barre and two from Holden. The entire rescue mission took roughly two hours from arrival, to clearing the scene. Barre Fire Chief Robert Rogowski said the horse's owner had a veterinary on hand during the rescue

to monitor the horse's condition and provide care afterward. Chief Rogowski said the horse appeared to be in fair condition at the time he left the residence.

Chief Rogowski stated that January is always their busiest month and this year has proven to be no different. About an hour after rescuing the horse, the Barre Fire Department responded to an apartment fire in the center of town. He said they have also responded to a chimney fire, burner fire and a brush fire in recent days.



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News of the Towns



Round Town
Ellenor Downer
413-967-3505

Nomination papers available for town election

Town clerk, Ellen Glidden listed information on the annual town election set for April 5. Nomination papers are available to run at the Town Clerk's Office located at the Henry Woods Building (basement) until 5 p.m. Thursday, Feb 11. MGL C. 53, §9A. Positions on the ballot include: moderator one-year term, board of selectman three-year term, board of assessors three-year term, board of health three-year term, water commissioner three-year term, sewer commissioner three-year term, Barre Housing Authority five-year term, Felton Field Commissioner three-year term, library trustees two positions three-year terms, planning board associate member one-year term, planning board five-year term and Quabbin Regional School Committee members two positions three-year terms. Nomination papers must be returned back to the Town Clerk's Office for certification of signatures by the Board of Registrars no later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 16. Any papers received after the deadline will be accepted late and will not be certified. MGL C. 53, §7. The last day to register to vote for this election will be 8 p.m. on Tuesday, March 16 MGL C. 53, §26, 28. Questions regarding voter registration or the election should be directed to Ellen Glidden, Town Clerk at 978-355-2504, extension 5.

Congregational church annual meeting
Barre Congregational Church Annual Meeting will be held via Zoom on Monday, Jan. 25 at 7 p.m. Church members will receive an email for the virtual Zoom meeting. To receive the link or for more information, people may email smusnicki@hotmail.com. The purpose of the meetings is: 1. To hear the reports of committees that have been meeting virtually to carry on the work of the church. 2. To fill offices and committees to continue the work of the church.

Barre Dining Center

BARRE — Elder Services of Worcester Area Nutrition Program welcomes guests to dine at the Barre Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road. The following meals will be served for the week of Jan. 25.

Meal sites are closed and there are only Meals on Wheels deliveries.

Volunteers are needed at the Barre dining site. Volunteers are needed for Meals on Wheels (mileage reimbursement) and in the kitchen. People should contact 978-355-5027.

MON. — Chicken pesto, Red Bliss potatoes, Scandinavian vegetables, fresh fruit, corn muffin

TUES. — Burger with chili and cheese, green beans, sweet potato fries, strawberries, sandwich roll

WED. — American chop suey, broccoli and red peppers, bread pudding, Italian bread

THURS. — Roast pork loin with gravy, mashed potatoes, Brussels sprouts, cheesecake mousse, marble rye bread

FRI. — Frittata, O'Brien potatoes, stewed tomatoes, mixed fruit, French bread

*Diabetic friendly dessert


**Higher sodium entree

Meal includes milk and margarine. Menus are subject to change. All meals are served at about 11:45 a.m. each weekday. Reservations should be made the day before by calling 978-355-5027 before 10:30 a.m. The donation of \$2.50 per meal helps keep the program running.

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GREG'S RESTORATION, LLC. VS. NICHOLAS WILLOUGHBY
MGL. 255, SECTIONS 25-29

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Dylan Masiello graduates from sheriff's department training academy

WEST BOYLSTON — Worcester County Sheriff Lewis G. Evangelidis announced the graduation of Basic Recruit Training Academy #54. It is the second class of recruits to graduate from the sheriff's department training academy during the COVID-19 pandemic. The 54th graduating class includes fourteen new correctional officers, with four members who are military or still-serving reservists in the United States Army and Army National Guard. Among the newest class of correctional officers is Officer Dylan Masiello of North Brookfield. Masiello was also the recipient of the Paul J. Westberg Banner Award, given to the recruit who demonstrates the most effort and enthusiasm during the twelve week academy.

During his tenure, Evangelidis has made significant changes to the hiring standards in order to professionalize the department. All correctional officer applicants must have, at minimum, an associates degree or at least two years of military service. They must also take and pass a written exam, physical fitness test, background check and psychological screening test. United States military applicants are given priority status in the hiring process.

"Our new officers have met the highest hiring standards in corrections today and have completed the finest training academy in Massachusetts," Evangelidis said. "Corrections is a hard job with significant challenges, our success although



Officer Dylan Masiello, from left, receives the Paul J. Westberg Banner Award from Worcester County Sheriff Lewis G. Evangelidis at the recent Basic Recruit Training Academy #54.

difficult to quantify will be measured by the crimes that are never committed in our community," said Worcester County Sheriff Evangelidis. Due to COVID-19 precautions, the recruits avoided the formal cadence style entrance, presenting of the colors and customary pinning. Unlike previous ceremonies, there were no invited guests in attendance. Instead, a private, socially distanced and masked graduation ceremony provided by Sheriff Evangelidis was

held on the grounds of the Sheriff's Department.

"I am incredibly proud of our new officers, not only did our 54th graduating class persevere through a global pandemic to complete their training, but they now enter the field of corrections overseeing the care, custody and control of our inmate population, many who are in the recovery phase from the ravages of an on-going opioid epidemic as well," said Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis.

Ware River Nature Clubs lists upcoming events

REGION — Ware River Nature Club will host a Comics and critters with bird and moon with Rosemary Mosco Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 7 p.m. Rosemary Mosco is the creator of the nature-based Bird and Moon comics. Participants learn why cartoons and conservation are a natural fit. They will get a chuckle out of her clever combination of engaging images and nature observations. She blends science, humor and heart to create books and comics about wildlife. Her Bird and Moon comics are collected in the book "Birding Is My Favorite Video Game," a 2019 ALA Great Graphic Novel for Teens and appeared in publications ranging from the scientific journal Nature Ecology and Evolution to the children's magazine Ranger Rick.

Join the Zoom Meeting at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85234575387?pwd=OXZVR0hUUTRHejZW>

UjYzJkUnp5QT09 Meeting ID: 85234575387 Passcode: 909224

The Audubon Society and Cornell Lab of Ornithology will hold the Great Backyard Count Feb. 12 through Feb. 15. The Great Backyard Bird Count is a free, fun, and easy event that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of bird populations. Participants are asked to count birds for as little as 15 minutes or as long as they wish on one or more days of the four-day event and report their sightings online at birdcount.org.

Anyone can take part in the Great Backyard Bird Count, from beginning bird watchers to experts and they can participate from their backyard or with a Ware River Nature Club group exploring a defined area with a team traveling in separate vehicles. Ware River Nature Club will announce plans for this event later.

Devereux staff to host virtual foster parenting meeting

RUTLAN — Devereux Therapeutic Foster Care staff will hold an informal virtual meeting regarding becoming a foster parent. Participants will receive general information about the foster care program and have questions answered regarding fostering. If fostering is something people have always thought about and they want to make a difference, here's a good place to start.

The upcoming dates: Tuesday, February 2 from 6-7 p.m. and Wednesday, Feb. 3 from 10 to 11 a.m.

If people are interested in attending, they may contact Maureen at 413-209-7677 or Janet at 508-713-3895. They will send the zoom link needed to join. Devereux promotes diversity, equity and inclusion.

Hubbardston
Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com



Senior center closed until April

The Hubbardston Senior Center will be closed until April. At that point, the Council on Aging will review how things are going with the virus and plan accordingly. A council member will be checking the phone lines two or three times a week. The director, Claudia Provencal will be checking emails and Facebook every day. The drive through food and egg will still be in place on Thursday mornings. Masks will be in place properly and distancing will be followed.

Board of selectmen now select board
The Hubbardston Board of Selectmen will now be known as the Hubbardston Select Board. Governor Baker signed S2983 - An Act Providing for the Renaming of the Board of Selectmen to Select Board in the town of Hubbardston. Although the name change is immediate, town officials will work in the coming years to implement the name change to include revising town bylaws, policies and other official matters. Voters approved this change at the Annual Town Meeting on June 23, 2020.

COVID update
Hubbardston is a "yellow" community according to the Jan. 14, MA DPH COVID-19 report. This means Hubbardston has less than or equal to 25 active cases, but more than 15. The current number of active cases in town is 21, a large increase from the last report of 15. It is important to note that towns bordering Hubbardston, to include Barre, Rutland, Gardner, Westminster and Templeton continue to be in a red status. Neighboring Princeton remains in a yellow status. Hubbardston has seen 88 cases since the start of the pandemic. More than 384 residents have been tested in the last 14 days with 21 of those residents reporting positive results. This is an increase in the town's positivity level. Residents are reminded to wear masks in public, keep social distancing, consistently and effectively wash hands, and limit gatherings to state recommendations.

Frozen Assets
People can help support Hubbardston small businesses during the month of January by stopping in for Frozen Assets form. Grab a cup of coffee, maybe some yummy cookies or a muffin, dinner or lunch for the family, even a flat of eggs or some local honey while they fill out the guess form. January is always the hardest time of the year for a small business to get folks in the door. So here's a chance to show not only town support but support for small businesses and show them that they are a much needed part of the community. Guess form donation is \$20 donation per guess form submitted, but the organizers will accept any and all donations given. This is what helps keep Special Events going in town. Deadline to enter is Feb.1. For more information people may check out the Special Events on the town of Hubbardston's website at <https://www.hubbardstonma.us/special-events>.

Local organic farmers to host workshop

BARRE — Jack Kittredge and Julie Rawson of Many Hands Organic Farm will be presenting their story Saturday, Jan. 30 from 10:30 a.m. to noon, at the farm in Barre and via Zoom. Forty-three years ago they were a young couple working and starting a family in Dorchester. During the next few years, they made five risky decisions, which changed their life paths and created Many Hands Organic Farm in Barre. Attend this workshop to learn about why they decided to move to Central Massachusetts, how they were able to construct an energy conscious house and homestead, build a community oriented organic farm, all while working at home and raising a family. Registration is free and available on the Many Hands Organic Farm website at mhof.net/events-workshops.



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CHECK OUT ALL THE

Turley

Publications

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News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Note: Many meetings are closed to the public or will be held remotely.

BARRE

Sewer Commission – Jan. 21 at 7 p.m.
Conservation Committee – Jan. 26 at 7 p.m.
Cemetery Commission – Jan. 28 at 11 a.m.
Board of Selectmen – Feb. 1 at 6:30 p.m.
Felton Field Commission – Feb. 2 at 6:30 p.m.
Council on Aging – Feb. 3 at 1 p.m.
Barre Housing Authority – Feb. 4 at 3 p.m.
Board of Health – Feb. 8 at 5 p.m.
Water Commission – Feb. 8 at 6:30 p.m.
DPW Commission – Feb. 8 at 7 p.m.
Cable Advisory Committee – Feb. 9 at 7 p.m.
Library Trustees – Feb. 10 at 7 p.m.

HARDWICK

Personnel Committee – Jan. 23 at 5:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen – Jan. 25 at 6:30 p.m.
Recycling Commission – Feb. 2 at 6:30 p.m.
Board of Health – Feb. 4 at 6:30 p.m.
Paige Library Trustees – Feb. 4 at 7 p.m.
Gilbertville-Wheelwright Sewer Commissioners – Feb. 8 at 6 p.m.
Wheelwright Water District – Feb. 8 at 7 p.m.
Council on Aging – Feb. 11 at 9:30 a.m.
Gilbertville Public Library – Feb. 12 at 4 p.m.

HUBBARDSTON

Planning Board – Jan. 21 and Feb. 4 at 6:30 p.m.
Open Space Committee – Jan. 26 and Feb. 23 at 7 p.m.
Agricultural Commission – Jan. 28 at 7 p.m.
Board of Selectmen – Feb. 1 at 6:30 p.m.
Conservation Commission – Feb. 2 at 7 p.m.
Historic Commission – Feb. 6 at 10 a.m.

PETERSHAM

Board of Health – Jan. 21 and Feb. 4 at 7 p.m.
Nichewaug Inn and Academy Committee 2020 – Jan. 25 at 6:30 p.m.
Petersham Historic District – Jan. 21 at 7 p.m.
Nichewaug Inn and Academy Committee – Jan. 25 at 6:30 p.m.
Planning Board – Jan. 28 at 7 p.m.
Open Space & Recreation Committee – Feb. 2 at 6:30 p.m.
Conservation Commission – Feb. 2 at 7 p.m.
Council on Aging – Feb. 10 at 10 a.m.
Cemetery Commission – Feb. 11 at 7 p.m.

RUTLAND

Public Hearing Notice Planning Board – Jan. 26 at 6:50 p.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearing – Feb. 3 at 6:30 p.m.

Listening announces upcoming virtual programs for teens

By Paula Ouimette
Staff Writer

BARRE – Listening Wellness Center, 35 South St., has just the thing for teenagers in search of something fun to do during the cold, often dull days of February – all from the comfort of their own homes. Listening Wellness Center has been providing virtual programs since the summer, ranging from yoga, art and music, cooking, mindfulness and more. These programs are offered at affordable costs. Scholarships are also provided through a grant from the Barre Savings Bank Charitable Foundation.

Teenagers in grades 7 and up can learn the art of “Japanese Boro and Sashiko Stitching” with Thérèse Beck on Tuesdays, Feb. 2, 9, 23 and March 2 from 2:30-3:30 p.m. The program cost is \$30. Boro and Sashiko are two Japanese hand-sewing techniques, that also embody a meditative quality, to add decorative patches to worn clothing and apparel. Boro is a series of stitched lines with patches of fabric and Sashiko is a traditional pattern created with high contrasts of thread and fabric.

Thérèse Beck has always enjoyed sewing and working with her hands. After receiving a BFA in theater, she began creating costumes for museums and professional theatrical productions such as operas and even Disney Cruise Lines princess and prince costumes. Beck is “looking forward to passing on the joy and tradition of working with various needlework disciplines.”

Jen Zehler returns to lead “Finding your Balance—Mindfulness In Real Life with Jen Zehler” on Tuesdays, Feb. 2, 9, 23 and March 2 from 4:30-5 p.m. for teens in grades 7-9. This program is free. The funding for this program is generously offered by the benefactors of the non-profit Trinity Institute for Applied Neuroscience and Spirituality (tians.us) who strongly believe in the value of this work. Zehler said the program will focus



Turley Publications Photos Courtesy of Listening Wellness Center

Thérèse Beck will teach the art of Japanese Boro and Sashiko stitching.

on “Finding Your Balance: Together we will focus on how to: Move from self-criticism to self-compassion; Cope more effectively with stress, and anxiety; Create an attitude of humility, gratitude, and acceptance of yourself and others.”

Jen Zehler is the Director of the Center for Children's Spirituality at TIANs (the Trinity Institute for Applied Neuroscience and Spirituality). She is a certified teacher and most recently worked at the national award-winning Breakthrough Magnet School in Hartford CT. Jen received her undergraduate degree in Early Childhood Education at New Jersey City University and her master's degree in Mindfulness Studies at Lesley University. She is also a graduate of the Women's Leadership Institute program at Hartford Seminary. She is a University of Massachusetts Medical School Qualified Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) teacher, and has received training in Mindful Schools, and the Mindful Life curriculum. Additionally, she completed teacher training with Inward Bound Mindfulness Education

(iBme), an organization that specializes in teen retreats. Jen has certification in Restorative Justice Circle Keeping from Planning Change and has completed Trauma training for working with youth through The Center for Adolescent Studies.

Artist Jen Swan continues her exploration of different art techniques with “Asian Ink Painting with Jen Swan” on Wednesdays, Feb. 3, 10, 24 and March 3 from 2:30-3:30 p.m. for teenagers in grades 7 and up. The program cost is \$32. Students will develop the art of traditional and modern Asian brush painting as they learn the art of ink painting using bamboo brushes. Swan said “We will develop skills in calligraphic brushwork as we paint the four noble ones; the plum blossom, the orchid, bamboo, and the chrysanthemum and find harmony and balance in our artwork.”

Jen Swan, a graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design, is a teaching artist and mural painter who shares her love of art with the diverse community of Worcester and its surrounding cities and towns. She currently teaches classes for the Worcester Art Museum, Think Tank and Technocopia. She is also a Cultural Partner in many schools and organizations teaching through MCC grants. Swan is primarily a plein air landscape painter, however, draws influence from many themes, styles and cultures in her artwork.

For more information or to register for these events through Eventbrite, people may visit listeningwellness.org or visit Listening Wellness Center on Facebook. People may also email Listening at listeningwellnesscenter@gmail.com at least one week before classes start for scholarship details, which may also include material free of charge.

EQLT to hold brush burning on Jan. 23

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Volunteers have been busy clearing brush to maintain the beautiful stone walls and trails at East Quabbin Land Trust's (EQLT) property, Wendemuth Meadow. There's plenty of brush piles ready to be burned. Volunteers are needed to help burn brush at Wendemuth Meadow, 25 Bates St., on Saturday, Jan. 23 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. They may stay warm by the fire and grab a hot dog or some marshmallows to roast.

Volunteers may stay an hour, a few hours or the whole day. They should RSVP to chenshaw@eqtl.org so EQLT has enough lunch food and snacks.

EQLT is collecting non-perishable foods for the St. Joseph's Food Pantry during the brush burning at Wendemuth Meadow. Canned soup is a great item to donate. Participants should bring one or more cans to share a healthy meal with others in need.



Here is an example of the hand-sewing techniques that teens will learn during Listening Wellness Center's February program.

Corrections policy

The Barre Gazette will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2. To request a correction, send information to Editor Ellenor Downer at barrenews@turley.com or call 978-355-4000. Corrections may also be requested in writing at Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

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WHITCO

Oakham

Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com



BOH gives COVID counts through Jan. 15

Total known historical cases in Oakham according to the Board of Health is 66. January 2021 there were 10 new COVID cases. December 2020 saw 32 new known COVID cases.

March- November 2020 the town had 24 new cases. The town regrettably had two known deaths from COVID-19 in January 2021. All businesses in Oakham are required to enforce mask/face covering requirements, as well as limit customers to ensure social distancing. No food or beverage should be consumed in any Oakham business by customers as there is not sufficient spacing to allow this more importantly, there are no businesses in Oakham currently licensed/permitted as a sit-down restaurant (take out only, which includes coffee and snacks). If people do not feel comfortable with the way the business is following safety protocols, they can decide whether to continue to frequent that establishment.

No church services

The Oakham Congregational Church's Church Council voted to suspend church services and Sunday School through the end of February due to the high COVID-19 cases in Oakham. Church council will decide when to hold indoor church services after that or continue the furlough depending on the COVID-19 numbers.

Mask sales

Tabby Tashjian's mask store, Stony Bridge Farm, 1148 Turnpike Road, will continue to be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. She is donating all proceeds from the sale of her masks to Bay State Equine Rescue. There are many colors and sizes to choose. There are cotton cloth non-medical facemasks in pre-school, child, large child/small adult and adult sizes with pleated and adjustable ear styles. Masks are individually packaged and labeled for convenient, self-serve shopping and purchase in the garage. Cost is \$5 each; two for \$8; four for \$15 and six for \$20. She will have Valentines Day, St. Patrick's Day and Easter/Springtime masks.

Hardwick Town Election set for April 12

HARDWICK – The Annual Town Election will held on Monday, April 12. The last day to obtain and submit nomination papers to the Board of Registrars for certification by Tuesday, Feb. 23, by 5 p.m.

The last day to file nomination papers with Town Clerk is on Monday, March 8, by 5 p.m. The last day to object or withdraw nomination papers is Wednesday, March 10, by 5 p.m. The last day to register to vote in the Annual Town Election, is on Tuesday, March 23, 8 p.m.

Voter registration will take place in the Myron E. Richardson Building at 307 Main St., Gilbertville on Tuesday, March 23, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. This is the last day and hour to register voters who wish to vote at the Annual Town Election. Mail-in voter registrations will be accepted if postmarked no later than the March 23 deadline.

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Opinion

Letters to the Editor

Samaritan’s Purse project gives children a shoebox of gifts

Despite a global pandemic, residents throughout Mass. Central Area Team shared the true meaning of Christmas with children in need this past holiday season.

At curbside drop-off locations for the Samaritan’s Purse project Operation Christmas Child, generosity of donors across the U.S., resulted in more than 7.8 million shoebox gifts collected in 2020. Combined with those collected from partnering countries in 2020, the ministry is now sending more than 8.9 million shoebox gifts to children worldwide.

Through shoeboxes-packed with fun toys, school supplies and hygiene items- volunteers brought joy to children in need around the world. Each gift-filled shoebox is a tangible expression of God’s love and it is often the first gift these children have ever received. Through the continued generosity of donors since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 186 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 160 countries and territories.

Across the Mass. Central Area Team, shoebox packers shop for shoebox gift deals year round and many serve at a deeper level. Information about ways area participants can get involved year round can also be found at samaritanspurserg.org/occ or by calling 518-437-0690.

Although local drop-off locations for gifts are closed until Nov. 15 - 22, 2021, anyone can still be a part of this life-changing project by conveniently packing a shoebox gift online in just a few simple clicks at samaritanspurserg.org/buildonline.

These simple gifts, packed with love, send a message to children worldwide that they are loved and not forgotten.

Sincerely,
Dana Williams
Media relations manager, Operation Christmas Child

Reader blames national discord on failure to uniformly enforce laws

A primary cause for the current tremendous national discord is the failure of governmental authorities to uniformly enforce our laws.

Here are some significant examples:

Immigration - illegal aliens are protected in sanctuary cities created by local elected officials.

Looters - destruction of property by “protesters” goes unprosecuted and even condoned.

Police Abuse - apparent instances of serious misconduct and discrimination are tolerated.

Presidential and Congressional Lying - unfounded claims of widespread voter fraud and rigged elections though legally debunked, go on and on by authorities, who we are supposed to trust.

Overt Actions to Overturn Elections and Usurp Constitutional Principles - undisputed phone calls by our president to change certified vote results and disrupt the Electoral College.

Capital Building Insurrection - participant’s claims this was a constitutionally protected act.

People on all sides are angry and frustrated. When they observe the “other side” getting away with serious infractions, it serves to justify their own illegal reactions. And the hostility only grows.

We need the courage of our elected officials to fairly apply our laws, and to change the laws when asked by the people. We will get nowhere if we fail to do so.

Paul Gallo
Barre

ROCCO

Rocco, please...what is it that you do?
We’re here and watch.
We want to be like you.

It can’t be just your slicked down hair.
Your palms face up.
Don’t seem fair.

Hey you guys, have no fear
Ain’t no secret.
“Tell them what they want to hear.”

But Rocco, the one that got away...
Such a gem.
You couldn’t make her stay?

She’ll be back, you can bet
I’ll stay cool.
Don’t know Russian yet.

– Patricia Masten

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In Past Pages

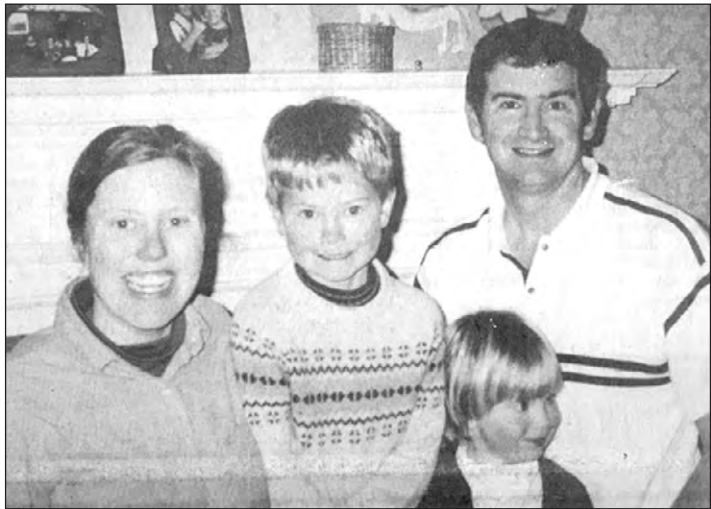
5 years ago (Jan. 21, 2016)

It was an exciting day of high school wrestling as Quabbin hosted and participated in the annual MidLand Wrestling Duals last Saturday. “It’s fun to have a home dual tournament,” Quabbin sophomore wrestler Conor Thompson said. Despite what things may look like on paper and sporting an overall 2-3 team record, the Quabbin varsity wrestling crew is filled with lots of promising young talent. Their biggest obstacle and what prohibits them from obtaining the “W” is shear lack of numbers. The Panther wrestlers that participate in the meets are more than meeting the grade, however the holes or the absence of bodies needed to fill all weight classes just isn’t present, therefore creating forfeited points given to opponents on a silver platter. With 11 varsity wrestlers and two alternates, Quabbin falls three wrestlers short of being able to submit athletes in every weight category. The end result puts them at a disadvantage right from the start. On one hand, looking at their record slightly below the .500 mark may not look impressive, but finding out that over half the team is currently or has been ranked in the top 10 of their weight class across their division, gives success a whole different spin.

The Quabbin boys and girls indoor track teams continued their 2015-2016 campaign with a meet against Nashoba last week at Wachusett Regional High School. The Lady Panthers had the closer of the two meets as they dropped a 66-25 decision to the Lady Chieftains, while the boys had a much tougher time in their 77.5-9.5 loss. For the girls, sophomore Morgan Giarusso finished second in the shot put at 29-03, eighth in the .55-meter dash at 8.0 and 11th in the high jump at 4-04, sophomore Kayla Whitcomb placed fifth in the two-mile at 13:35.5 and seventh in the high jump at 4-08, senior Anna Berry came in sixth in the 600 meters at 1:57.3, eighth in the 1000 meters at 3:36.9 and ninth in the shot put at 13-01 1-2, freshman Nicole Caruso finished 10th in the 55-meter hurdles at 10.9, freshman Sophia Bellone placed 11th in the 55-meter hurdles at 10.9 and 23rd in the 300 meters at 55.4, freshman Madelyn Thrasher placed 14th in the high jump at 4-04 and 15th in the 55-meter hurdles at 13.5, sophomore Morgaine Bailey came in 16th in the 55-meter dash at 8.4 and 17th in the high jump at 4-02, sophomore Isabel Pitney placed 18th in the 55-meters at 9.0, 21st in the shot put at 17-05 1-2 and 24th in the 300 meters at 57.2 and sophomore Olivia Amato-Hansen finished 29th in the shot put at 15-08 1-4.

The historian of the Oakham Congregational Church, Herb Holmes, researched the first settled Congregational minister at the church, Rev. Daniel Tomlinson, to portray him as authentically as possible. He discovered a sermon that he gave as part of the kick off for the church’s 250th anniversary of its establishment. Rev. Tomlinson always wore black

LOOK BACK
Trip to New Zealand - 1996



Turley Publications File Photo
Susan and Matt Turnbull are shown with their children, Matt and Betsy, at their home in Oakham. The family recently returned from a trip to New Zealand.

gloves and so did Holmes.

10 years ago (Jan. 27, 2011)

On Jan. 15, two Quabbin robotics teams competed at the Leominster Youth Robotics Competition. The teams were comprised of students complete Senior Research Projects and members of the Quabbin Junior Engineering and Technical Society (JETS). The JETS team thanks the Quest Foundation for their financial support. Team members include Mike Baldino, Sean McCrone, Russell Wilson, Chris Peterson, Brendon Guertin, Kyle Richard, Bob Kolesnik and Brent Bolger.

The Rutland Lions Club sponsored a roast beef dinner for Rutland seniors Sunday, switching from the usual December event. About 100 came to enjoy the dinner, socialize and hear the Honors Jazz Combo from Wachusett Regional High School. Wachusett Instrumental Director Miriam Jensen introduced the four members: Connor Johnson – tenor sax, Marcus Papandrea – alto sax, Michael Sweeney – drums and Joshua Wheatley – piano. A door prize drawing rounded out the event. Co-chairmen of the dinner were Kenneth Cook and Jerry Quist. The Rutland Lions Club was started in 1971 and consists of 44 members, men and women. They are lead by Carolyn Carbonneau.

On Jan. 31, 2011, Barbara and Gordon Young of Barre Plains will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary. Together they have raised eight children and now have 14 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

25 years ago (Jan. 25, 1996)

Ashley Hopkins, granddaughter of Russell and Victoria Hopkins of Barre, is one of nine students who won an essay contest honoring the memory of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Ashley, a fifth grade student at Venerini Academy in Worcester, wrote an essay based on the following: “Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. had a

dream of helping people. In honoring his life, what can you do to help someone in need?”

Workshop participants number over 100 at the 9th annual Northeast Organic Farmers Association of Massachusetts’ Winter Conference held at Quabbin Regional High School last Saturday. “The response was very good,” said NOFA board member Carol Healer. “About 125 people attended the workshops.” Healer said she and her family had been gardeners for quite a while before becoming active in the association. “Our daughter Carla became a major in sustainable agriculture at the University of Maine and she influenced us to become more active,” Healer said.

Mark and Susan Turnbull and their children, Matt and Betsy, returned recently from a one-year stay in Christ Church on South Island in New Zealand. Mark took a year’s sabbatical from his teaching at Clark University to study under Ward Robinson at the University of Canterbury in Christ Church. Robinson is one of the foremost teachers in the field of x-ray crystallography. Mark also taught two classes at the university, and observed basic differences in students from the United States and New Zealand.

38 years ago (Jan. 27, 1983)

Katherine Mullen of Grandview Terrace received an interesting piece of mail last Wednesday, Jan. 19, which left Lourdes, France on November 27, 1982. It was from Sainte Therese Little Slower Shop in Lourdes and said “A Mass will be offered for you at Lourdes on Christmas Day 1982 with our best wishes at Notre Dame.” This, of course, was all in French and translated by Mrs. Mullen. She receives this special note each year since her visit several years ago to the Little Flower Shop in Lourdes when her son, Vincent, was stationed in France with the United States Army.

Miss Christine Erickson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald

See PAST PAGES, page 5

Guest Column

Adventures of Gertrude the Cat

By Ruth Robinson

Dear Folks,
This morning has been busy and very interesting with the great-grandchildren here. I have been lying on the newspapers under the desk watching them. The little one has been very busy with all the farm animals and farm vehicles. Suddenly, she sees me and comes over to pat my body and spies my long tail.



Patting my body I could take, but not pulling my tail.
So I jumped up on the magazine rack beside Missy, who was watching the children. I would have gone up on the back of the couch to continue watching, but the older girl was using the couch to play with her dolls.

After they were gone, I thought I would mess with the newspapers, but I didn’t get a chance. As I went into the kitchen, I spied Missy’s ball of yarn on the dining room floor. She is making some mittens for the kids she said yesterday. I played with that ball quite a while and ended up wrapping it around several chair legs before Missy caught me.

Wow, was she mad. I dusted quickly into the spare room. I know I was wrong hitting that ball of yarn, but it was great fun just the same.

Then I decided to have my morning nap on the lower closet shelf, but there was something on the whole shelf. What to do? I reached up my paw and pulled hard on whatever it was. Over it came off the shelf on top of me. It was light so I was fine.

Next I went up onto that space I had created and pushed the other things off. Hooray, now maybe I can have my nap. I know Missy put a new bag of stuff near the other side of the spare room bed yesterday, so after a nice rest I will see what is in there.

Tune in next week folks for the results. Try to stay healthy in these bad times.

Love,
Gertrude

How to submit photos and news to the Barre Gazette

Readers, institutions, municipalities, non-profit groups and civic organizations are strongly encouraged to send the Barre Gazette their hometown news and photos. News items and press releases should be sent in an e-mail to barrenews@turley.com as either a Microsoft Word document attachment or pasted directly into the e-mail message screen. Be sure to include who, what, when, where and why in the submission, preferably written in the third person unless it is a letter to the editor or guest column. Please send photo captions identifying all subjects in the image(s) from left to right and include first and last name, hometown, title if applicable, and a brief description of what subjects are doing in the photo. E-mail uncorrected, raw, RGB color digital photos at highest resolution directly off the camera or sized at least 6 inches wide at 200 resolution, no larger than 1 megabyte. They may be e-mailed as attachments to barrenews@turley.com or faxed to 413-967-6009. Deadline for hard copy is noon on Friday and e-mailed copy noon on Monday. Publicity chairpersons are encouraged to send in news about upcoming fundraising or other calendar events at least three weeks before they take place.

The Barre Gazette will respond to all e-mail messages received. People may call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505 for help and suggestions. People who do not have e-mail may mail these materials to: Ellenor Downer, Editor, Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

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Letters to the editor should be 350 words or less in length. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require letter writers to include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language. All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources. Send letters to: Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005 or via email to edowner@turley.com. The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

BARRE GAZETTE

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Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

It has been a cold week, but that is what January is supposed to be. At least, we have not had any more snow and most of it has melted with the rain. We got a burning permit and soon we will be able to get rid of the many branches of pine that fell in the back yard.

I spent the various days doing special projects. I filed away the many food recipes, which I had accumulated in the file folders by subject. I also clipped magazines and saved articles I wanted. One article I saved was how to make coasters out of five inch fabric squares and I made several of those.

A friend sent me a clipping from Woman's Day about a lady that does the same thing with her artificial Christmas tree, which I do. She even made it into a St. Patrick Day tree and a Fourth of July and Memorial Day tree with all kinds of flags and red, white and blue. I decided to start working on felt shamrocks for the St. Patrick's Day tree. I have the

Valentine tree up now.

With the many groceries from the Hubbardston Senior Center, we got a good supply of Italian sausage so here is a recipe I plan to make. I also froze some kale, which I got from there so I have all the supplies I need.

LOADED ONE-POT MAC AND CHEESE

*Some Italian sausage sliced
3 carrots, sliced
4 garlic gloves, peeled and minced
1/2 teaspoon salt
10 button mushrooms, sliced
1 1/2 cups chicken broth
2 cups elbow macaroni
1 cup cream
6 cups kale, sliced
1 1/2 cups sharp cheddar cheese
1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved
1/2 cup parsley flakes, minced*

Add sausage, carrots, garlic and salt to a five quart Dutch oven. Cook over medium heat for 8 minutes, occasionally stirring. Add mushrooms and cook for 4 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add

chicken broth and bring to a simmer and add macaroni, stir and cover. After 4 minutes, uncover and stir to prevent the macaroni from cooking onto the bottom of the Dutch oven. Cover and cook 4 to 5 more minutes until macaroni is al dente. Stir in cream and kale and cook uncovered for 2 to 3 minutes. Add cheese and stir until cheese is melted. Remove from heat and stir in tomatoes and parsley.

This and That

I was sorry to hear the Hubbardston Senior Center was closed. The egg and grocery day is still Thursday with pick up outside in the vehicles.

I understand the Board of Health is working on having a vaccine clinic in town and I will be glad to get that.

May you all wear your masks and stay safe. I also made more masks with some pretty colorful fabrics I ordered by mail. I guess we will be wearing them a long time.

In My Backyard by Ellenor Downer

Red-breasted nuthatch and robins

I received a call from a North Brookfield resident that lives near Brookfield Orchards. She has bird feeders in her backyard and a window feeder. She said she had more than 50 robins in a field with a hedge of Arbor Vitae trees. She also saw a red-breasted nuthatch. She said her son lives in Sturbridge and he has seen red-breasted nuthatches and lots of bluebirds.

Red-breasted nuthatch

The red-breasted nuthatch is an irruptive species. Several people including me have seen one this year. It is a smaller version about 4-inches and different coloring from its cousin, the white-breasted nuthatch.

As its name indicates, it has a rusty breast and belly. Its back is slate gray like the white-breasted. A distinguishing feature of the red-breasted is a white eyeline and a black head. The male's cap is black and the females gray. Both red and white-breasted nuthatches

have a short tail and a long pointed beak. The call of the red-breasted - "ank or enk" - is higher and more nasal than the white-breasted nuthatch. Both nuthatches will visit feeders. Nuthatches creep down tree trunks looking for insects. The female lays five to seven white or slightly pink eggs with brown speckles in a nest of rootlets, grasses, mosses and shredded bark. It uses an evacuated hole, birdhouse or abandoned woodpecker hole. It smears pitch around the entrance to the nest cavity to deter predators. It also uses birdhouses and cavities to roost in as well as nest.

Raven

I received a letter from a West Brookfield resident, who sent a letter, as she did not have Internet.

She wrote, "I want to share my story about a raven. All last summer, I heard what I thought was geese going over my backyard crossing into the woods looking like maybe going to the wild

life preserve on Wickaboag Valley Road." She said the exact day this column wrote about a woman having a raven in her yard.

She said, "My neighbor and I were talking outdoors when the raven flew over and it was at that moment I recalled your article. I got my bird book out and yes we have a raven. I have seen it many times and my neighbor and I call it 'Gronk' because of the very loud noise it makes. I've never seen another one flying even near it and one day it came to where I feed my crows in the morning and the crows were very unhappy." She also said she had two Carolina wrens at her feeder Jan. 11.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

Column

Midwinter garden musings

It was a lot of fun to get back in the groove garden-wise this week. No, my hands weren't in the dirt, but I was definitely dreaming and scheming about the upcoming season, and reflecting on gardens past. Here are some musings that might be of interest to you.

One can presume that the resurgence in gardening we experienced last spring has continued into the new year. Because of unprecedented increases in ordering, two of my favorite mail order seed companies have limited days that you can place online orders and are stating that it will take anywhere from 10 days to six weeks for shipment. So I guess I would advise that if you haven't placed your orders yet, it might be a good idea to do so.

On a sad note, I discovered that one of my favorite companies for flower seed, Stokes Seed, has discontinued flower seed altogether and is catering to commercial growers for its vegetable seed. Good thing I saved an outdated catalog for all of its valuable cultural information. It was here that I learned that cleome seeds like alternating temperatures to germinate well, to the tune of 85 degrees by day and 65 degrees by night! Or that salvia seed needs light to germinate; don't cover these seeds, just push them into the soil surface.

One thing that always appealed to me about this company was the number of varieties that it offered for each flower type. In my old catalog, I counted no less than 22 kinds of petunias in dozens of

colors choices. It will take a bit of research to find a replacement for this company but I am guessing there is one or more out there.

The hyacinth bulbs that sat in my 50-degree mudroom since October sometime were put in forcing glasses a little over a week ago, and already have roots that stretch inches into the water. It has been an ongoing joke in my house that if you stood there long enough you could watch them grow. Top growth has started, ever so slightly. I cannot wait for the blooms to perfume my house! Did you ever get "itchy" after handling hyacinth bulbs? I do, and it is a common reaction for many people. The weird thing is, my hands rarely itch, but it I happen to touch my face or my neck with a hand that touched a hyacinth bulb I had better wash up and quickly!

The rosemary plant that I potted up before the first hard frost is doing great. It gets late morning sun and sits in a comfortable 50-degree location indoors. Old houses are great in that respect; they offer lots of little microclimates for our gardening pass-time. I water it as needed, typically every five days or so. It hasn't flowered, but should soon. Long nights initiate the flowering response. This year it grew so big that I could



Roberta McQuaid
Columnist

barely lift it on my own. It may be a good idea to think about taking some cuttings this spring and retiring the old girl. We'll see.

The best cuttings are those taken with a little new growth. Find where the tip of the stem bends on its own and that is where you should take your cutting. Keeping a large rosemary on board is reminiscent of my teenage years when my parents would cover and uncover the two large specimens we'd overwinter on our unheated porch. We were successful at it for many years in a row.

As I look back I think it is pretty neat that my parents cared enough about my blossoming career to go through the hassle of putting blankets on rosemary plants every night!

On that note, I hope that you too are able to find your groove this week, gardening or elsewhere.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

QRSD, continued from page 4

meals. Since school opened this year 129,135 meals were served to children.

Teacher Advisory

Evan Barringer was unable to attend last Thursday school committee meeting. In his letter, he said, "Our students are blessed to have teachers, who have gone above and beyond on a daily basis. Our teachers are top notch." School committee vice-chair Mark Brophy thanked teachers for "being part of the way and not in the way."

Student Advisory

Thomas Doyle, a senior at the

high school, said he was in band and the band has instrument masks so they can start playing within their cohort. The students have to be ten feet apart and were playing in the cafeteria. The instrument masks have a slit to put the mouthpiece through. Flutes go through a hole in mask. Students play at home and synchronize the parts and were in the process of putting on a virtual concert.

Nicholas Whitelaw, a ninth grader, said in person learning gave students better contact with teachers. The student council members were sharing their time planning methods and techniques. He said social interaction was missing and

impacted student body.

Colleen Mucha shared a video complied by Adam Couturier on vacation camp held during December break at the elementary level. It was held for three days at three hours per day. The school received a grant and would hold camps during February and April vacation. The camp gave remote learning students an opportunity to have in person contact.

Collective bargaining

Collective bargaining subcommittee chair Brophy said the district has three-year contracts with five of the six groups. The remaining contract outstanding was the paraprofessionals.

PAST PAGES, continued from page 4

Erickson, celebrated her 13th birthday this past weekend with a party and sleepover for 10 of her friends. The Ericksons are now living on Sunrise Avenue in the home formerly known as the Sawtell residence.

Veronica O'Donnell, presently a senior at Quabbin Regional High School, plans to enter the field of psychology at Notre Dame College in Manchester, New Hampshire in the fall. Veronica, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles O'Donnell of Old Hardwick Road, will study behavioral science.

She has been active in the Poetry Club, the National Honor Society, the French Club, the Junior spaghetti supper, the Junior Prom Committee, the senior bazaar, the yearbook staff, as a guidance aide and she has also been a member of the Barre Women's Softball League.

2021 Turley Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representa-

tatives. We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.



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Where is this?



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

This week’s mystery photo is from Oakham. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email edowner@turley.com or call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505, extension 100 with their answer by noon on Monday, Jan. 25. The names of those that correctly guessed the location will appear in next week’s edition. Gary Brigham, Dick Clark, Stephen Craven, Karen Delude, Barbara Kempski, Barbara Laborde, Raul Laborde, Bruce Townner and Jeremy Varnum correctly identified the photo. Last week’s photo was the apple trees at Brookfield Orchards in North Brookfield.

Jeffrey Scott appointed Senior Vice President/CTO

GARDNER – At a recent meeting of the GFA Board of Directors, Jeffrey Scott was promoted as a Senior Vice President. Scott joined the credit union in May 2020 as vice president, Chief Technology Officer (CTO).

Tina M. Sbrega, President and CEO stated, “Jeff is a proven technology leader whose strategic perspective, commitment to operational excellence, and collaborative leadership approach will continuously evolve the technology focus at GFA. We are confident he will continue to have success in leading initiatives to increase efficiency and provide a secure and superior member experience. His knowledge of and commitment to cyber security provides us great comfort knowing we are protecting the confidential information of our members and our credit union.”

Scott has over 20 years of experience in the banking technology industry and has played a key role in the strategic direction and day-to-day operations of GFA’s information technology systems.

As Senior Vice President, Scott will continue to direct the Credit Union’s technology investments and assets, while ensuring they meet the changing demands of members in a digitally focused financial environment. Propelling GFA forward by evaluating new technology and applications; establishing and implementing information systems security policies and procedures; managing technology resources and leading information technology team.

Established in 1938, GFA Federal Credit Union stands as one of the last original financial institutions in the Gardner area and ten convenient full-service branch locations throughout Massachusetts and Southern New Hampshire.

“It is tough to have farmers take the ferry for meetings on the mainland,” said Dan Martino in a previous press release. Martino serves as president of the Martha’s Vineyard Farm Bureau. “But that is not the only reason for forming a new county. Farmers on Martha’s Vineyard and the other islands that make up Dukes County face diverse and unique challenges and opportunities. Examples include the variety of agricultural practices, geographic isolation, elevated real estate values, finite agricultural lands, the seasonal population influx from tourism and the community desire for agricultural self-sufficiency. For these reasons, the time was right to begin a new chapter, leveraging our strong agricultural community, with focused plans and defined solutions.”

To learn more about MFBF, people may visit www.MFBF.net.

Massachusetts Farm Bureau receives New Horizon Award

MARLBOROUGH – The Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation was honored at American Farm Bureau Federation’s (AFBF) virtual convention with the New Horizon Award. This annual award recognizes Farm Bureaus that implement new, innovative programs.

“Martha’s Vineyard Farm Bureau became our twelfth county Farm Bureau and this addition qualified us for AFBF’s New Horizon Award,” said MFBF president Mark Amato. “We are proud of the work both staff and volunteers put into successfully developing a new County Farm Bureau in the Commonwealth.”

By adding Martha’s Vineyard Farm Bureau, MFBF is now comprised of 12 county Farm Bureaus with nearly 6,000 members. Previously, this county was part of the Cape and Islands County Farm Bureau.

With the COVID-19 pandemic girls are faced with the same challenges as other small businesses. Girls in Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin and Berkshire counties quickly pivoted their sales methods. From running virtual cookie booths on social media to participating in drive-through locations to facilitating orders that ship directly to customers’ doors, girls as young as five years old are continuing to embrace their entrepreneurial spirits, stay connected to their communities, and have fun by participating in the cookie program. And, the proceeds from each and every purchase stay local with the troop and Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts to power Girl Scouts’ essential leadership programming.

Here are the ways local Girl Scouts will be selling cookies this year:

Online: Girl Scouts will be selling cookies online through Digital Cookie and social media (with parental supervision) to promote their virtual cookie business to friends and family. Whether its emails, door hangers or virtual cookie booths, customers will have contactless purchase and delivery options as well as the option to donate cookies to GSCWM’s Project Care and Share (cookies for our service men and women).

Cookie Booths: Drive-through cookie booths; “lemonade stand style” neighborhood booths and traditional storefront cookies booths at local establishments including GNC.

Chamber music society holds live stream concert

WORCESTER – The Worcester Chamber Music Society (WCMS) continues its 15th Season with the final installment of its new and popular Spotlight Concert series featuring the core members of the group. The concerts are being live-streamed from the acoustically spectacular Shapiro Hall at Joy of Music in Worcester.

The concert features WCMS violist Peter Sulski and pianist Randall Hodgkinson in a performance of three sonatas for viola and piano.

It will be live-streamed Thursday, Jan. 28 and on demand Jan. 28 through Feb. 4

Selections include: Paul Hindemith Sonata for Viola and Piano, Op. 11 No. 4; Johannes Brahms Sonata in E-flat major, Op. 120 No. 2 and Rebecca Clarke Sonata for Viola and Piano.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$18 for a household, \$5 for students, youth 17 and under and EBT cardholders are free. Tickets are available. Go online to www.worcesterchambermusic.org to see what else WCMS has in store for its 15th season. For further information, people may contact Alison Doherty at alison@worcesterchambermusic.org.

TOWN ELECTION, continued from page 1

North Brookfield Rd 2022

Planning Board for 5-year term

Anthony I. Mobilio, 414 North Brookfield Rd 2026

Matthew D. Urban, 330 Williamsville Rd 2026

Quabbin Regional School Committee

Member two positions for 3-year terms

David A. Deschamps, 481 Britton Rd East 2024 candidate for re-election (papers returned)

Stanley “Lee” J. Wolanin, 1118 Old Hardwick Road, candidate for re-election

Nomination papers are available to

run for any of the above positions at the Town Clerk’s Office located at the Henry Woods Building (basement) until 5 p.m. Thursday, Feb 11. MGL C. 53, §9A.

Nomination Papers must be returned back to the Town Clerk’s Office for certification of signatures by the Board of Registrars no later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 16. Any papers received after the deadline will be accepted late and will not be certified. MGL C. 53, §7.

The last day to register to vote for this election will be 8 p.m. on Tuesday, March 16 MGL C. 53, §26, 28. Questions regarding voter registration or the election should be directed to Ellen Glidden, Town Clerk at 978-355-2504, extension 5.

SHILLELAGH, continued from page 1

High School. She frequently attended Quabbin Community Band concerts where her husband, Jeff, son and daughter played.

She founded In a Heartbeat, which teaches CPR to first responders and members of the community. On a regular basis, Gretchen offered her time to teach classes to the community. She worked with a Boy Scout in Oakham for his Eagle project to make Oakham a Heart Safe Community. She sang in her church choir and in the annual Festival of Lessons and Carols. She even took voice lessons.

She also shows her Irish spirit and grit in her battle with a rare cancer. She displays courage and determination in fighting the cancer.”

State Sen. Anne Gobi read the citation presented to Nahkala from the Massachusetts State Senate. It said, “Be it known that the Massachusetts State Senate hereby extends its congratulations to Gretchen Nahkala in recognition of receiving the Shillelagh Award for her indomitable spirit and always lovingly embracing family and friends.” Sen. Gobi made a trip to Boston earlier in the week to pick up the Senate Citation.

Following the presentation of the Shillelagh and Senate citation, the group gave a round of applause and sang “For She’s a Jolly Good Fellow.”

Kane said due to the pandemic, this years “All Things Irish” event will be held outside and most likely in late spring or early summer. There will be more information on the event and nominations later.

MASKS, continued from page 1

Jeanette Sullivan, Mary Tomoselli and Mary Ann Watson. Clare Barnes, facilities director at Quabbin, provided the group with the pattern, fabric and elastic. Many in the group also purchased some fabric with “child friendly” designs.

Pat Kowal said, “[The materials] was provided two weeks before school started with the information that they need 260 masks to start school. We had 280 ready for that date.” She said, “It’s difficult to say how long it takes to make a mask because some of the ladies sew faster than others.” Some of the group continued sewing and added 140 more masks to make the total over 400.

The pattern was chosen because it

its adjustable; the elastic was left loose to be tied to fit the child. The sewers made the eco-friendly masks of cloth, which is washable and reusable. Superintendent Sheila Muir thought having masks, which fit comfortably, would be easier to get children to wear them.

Pat Kowal said, “Everyone she asked was happy to help the kids.” When masks were hard to come by, many individuals or small groups made masks for hospital workers, schools and other organizations. Groups included accomplished sewers like this group from Barre, but others included novices as well.

The Quabbin Regional School District wanted to honor this group of 11 women and the superintendent read their names at a school committee meeting last year.

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Panthers anxious to hit the court

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

BARRE — Dennis Dextradeur has seen a lot of different things during his coaching career at Quabbin Regional High School.

Dextradeur and the members of the Panthers boys' varsity basketball team will most likely be experiencing some new things this season due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Our Athletic Director Mark Miville was able to provide us with three intrasquad preseason scrimmages and they were officiated by

IAABO referees," said Dextradeur, who beginning his 29th season as the Panthers boys' varsity basketball coach. "Those scrimmages were simulated games and were tremendously helpful to our staff, players, officials and scorers on just what we have to do to insure making the gymnasium and game a safe environment."

One of the differences this season is the Panthers practices are only 90 minutes long.

"The major impact this season with dealing with the new guidelines set forth is the limit of practice time with the players,"

Dextradeur said. "Our ability to teach, prepare and implement has been reduced. We are only allowed 1 1/2 hours on the court. If time on task were limited or reduced in the classroom you would begin to see the same result with learning and skill acquisition. However, the athletes were eager and excited to finally take to the court after nearly a 10-month hiatus. So were the coaching staff."

The 2019-20 campaign was a very memorable one for Quabbin. After capturing the Mid-Wach C league title, the Panthers advanced to the Western Mass. Division 2

semifinals where they lost to Chicopee. They finished the season with a 16-6 overall record.

Because of the pandemic, there isn't going to be a postseason tournament held this year. The Clark Tournament, which is normally held during the February school vacation week, was also canceled for the first time since 1943.

"Seven of our juniors on last year's team had an opportunity to play in the Clark Tournament," Dextradeur said. "As seniors, they were poised and ready for another

See PANTHERS , page 8

Tournaments for baseball in question



File photos

The spring baseball tournament is still in question as conditions in six months are hard to predict right now.

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

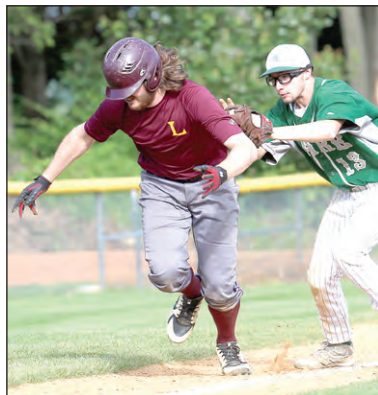
REGION — As time continues to run short on the various 2020-2021 seasons, the opportunity for area fans to see their favorite sports' sectional tournaments is running out.

When the majority of the member schools in Massachusetts voted for the change to a statewide tournament and eliminate the sectional tournaments sponsored by the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association, many Western Mass. schools voted against the idea.

The Western Mass. tournament, especially in certain sports like soccer and basketball, has been an important event to the region between the ability to obtain bragging rights for an area of the state often segregated from the rest.

The 2020-2021 school was set to be the final year with a sectional tournament, a sobering fact for fans of soccer and basketball who were used to the spectacle of seeing the best teams compete for the soccer title at big venues like Westfield State University, and Curry Hicks Cage in the case of basketball.

In the spring, UMass is also a



UMass has been a popular site for the Western Mass. baseball tournament.

very popular site, often hosting the semifinals and finals of the Western Mass. softball and baseball tournaments. The sites also host state semifinal games on a rotating basis.

Recently, the baseball committee under the MIAA was discussing the possibilities of whether or not there will be a tournament this spring. The fall and winter tournaments were already cancelled, denying fans their opportunity to have a final sectional under the MIAA banner.

At their Jan. 6 meeting, the committee established a sub-committee to begin studying poten-

See BASEBALL, page 8

Live-streaming could be available for high school games

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION — Basketball and hockey may be starting up in the next week or two depending on what school you are playing for, but your ability to catch a game is about as limited as your ability to go to the TD Garden or Fenway Park.

But your favorite high school action may be coming, and for free, to a handheld or other computer device near you.

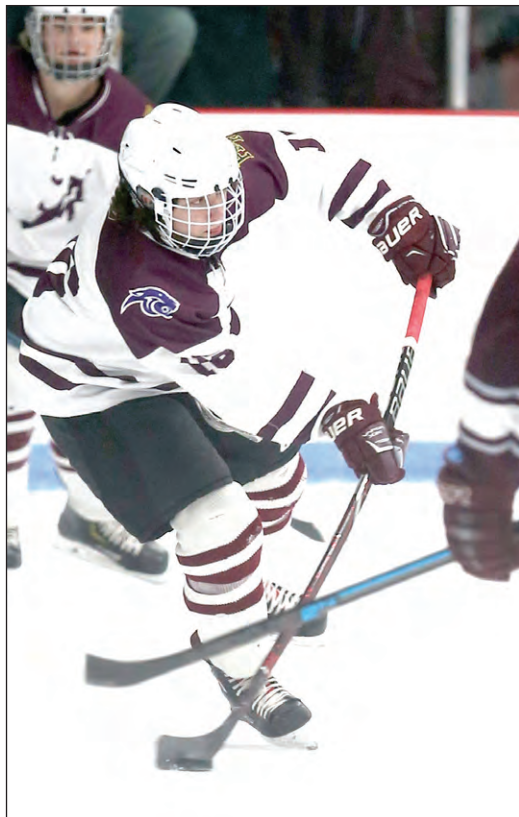
Many schools, beginning this week with Quabbin Regional's regular season basketball games, will be made available to its faithful utilizing a couple of platforms.

Quabbin's games will be seen on its YouTube channel.

Several schools have YouTube channels, where it now video tapes or streams various events live for people to see. The trend became popular last year in June when many schools lost out on their traditional graduation ceremonies.

It is unclear if those types of ceremonies will be able to return this year, making the ability to stream so people who cannot be there in person can watch, even more important.

There are more ways various schools in the region will stream games for fans. Among them, Agawam and several other schools are planning to stream those events utilizing social media.



File photos

Hockey games this season may be found on Livebarn or a school's social media website.

High Schools website to do games.

Hockey games at Olympia Ice Center in West Springfield will utilize a website called Livebarn. There will be no fans allowed at swim meets, though many schools are planning to stream those events utilizing social media.

Regardless of the platform, there could be many high school games available to fans during the next months, making it possible for fans to be able to stay in on the action for this season. The trend could continue outdoors next month if football games are

unable to have fans at their games, though guidance have not been issued and things could drastically change in the next month depending on the government's ability to step up vaccinations under the

See GAMES , page 8



Social media sites like Facebook or Youtube channels could be used by area high schools to live-stream winter sporting events.

New umpires needed for 2021 season

REGION — The Western Massachusetts Baseball Umpire Association is looking for individuals who are interested in umpiring baseball at the high school and youth level. The WMBUA services high school baseball and various other leagues in the Greater Springfield area/ Hampden County.

The WMBUA's first year members class will be held for roughly five to six weeks, beginning in February. The class dates right now are fluid as the organization monitors what happens with the COVID-19 pandemic. Class is usually one or two nights per week from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The class takes place in the First Baptist Church of East Longmeadow's classrooms at 50 Parker Street. Classes may also be virtual if COVID-19 does not allow for in-person meetings.

If you are interested in taking the classes, contact Chris Meffen, the WMBUA Secretary, via email at cmeffen8017@gmail.com or visit the WMBUA website at <http://wmbua.org>.

Tri track modified series confirms six 2021 dates

SEEKONK — The Tri Track Open Modified Series officials confirmed on Tuesday six dates for the 2021 season. The series will compete at three different tracks in two different New England states, headlined by multiple staple events and the anticipated return to Massachusetts.

Fans can expect a return to Monadnock Speedway (twice), two stops at Star Speedway, including the 10th annual SBM, and two stops at Seekonk Speedway -- including the prestigious \$10,000 to win Open Wheel Wednesday and the fan-favorite Haunted Hundred.

The season begins back on the high-banks of Monadnock, in Winchester, New Hampshire, with a 100-lap feature on Saturday, May 1. The date will be part of Monadnock's opening Spring Dash weekend, which will also include their NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Racing Series divisions and the Granite State Pro Stock Series. Tri Track will visit Monadnock for a second time on Saturday, August 14, joined again by Monadnock's weekly divisions. The track has been a regular circuit on the Tri Track schedule -- one that places series regulars against the weekly competitors, which



Submitted photo

The Tri Track Open Modified Series will have six dates in 2021 for its competition.

often come close to Victory Lane. Craig Lutz and Sam Rameau won events at Monadnock in a COVID-19 shortened 2020 season.

On May 22, Tri Track will return to Star Speedway in Epping, New Hampshire, for the first of two dates on the 2021 calendar. Star has also been well-known for the annual SBM event, which returns for the 10th annual feature spectacular on Saturday, July 24. Two dates at Star in the midst of their packed schedule will give race fans a chance to watch Modifieds tear up the quarter-mile again. Matt Hirschman, a five-time and defending Tri Track champion,

went to Victory Lane at Star last year.

With two dates, the return to Massachusetts and Seekonk Speedway is highly anticipated by the series, teams, drivers and fans. Seekonk will host the annual \$10,000 to win Open Wheel Wednesday event on Wednesday, June 30, and also host the Haunted Hundred on Saturday, Oct. 23.

As part of the Haunted Hundred -- for the first time -- all three races during the day will be 100 laps. Tri Track headlines the action, crowning the 2021 champion, while the stars of the Pro All Star Series (PASS) and American Canadian

Tour (ACT) will also compete in their championship events during the season-finale, which will also end the 75th year of full-time racing at Seekonk in style.

The 2021 schedule is subject to change due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Registration for the 2021 season will open on January 28, to be completed by drivers and teams through the Tri Track website. More information will be released closer to that date. For more information on the Tri Track Open Modified Series, visit TriTrackModifieds.com and follow the series on social media.

Pioneers to host Pelham clinic

LUDBLOW — Western United Pioneers FC is excited to offer a soccer clinic in Pelham, MA for players in the Massachusetts North Region. The fall clinic provides off-season training and skill development by WUP FC coaches. There are two sessions available. sign up for one or both. It makes a great holiday gift for friends and family members.

This program is offered to boys and girls born in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014. The four-week program includes one practice per week for a total of \$65 per session (\$130 for 2 sessions). Sessions will consist of a max of 15 players per field (COVID regulation for the players' safety).

SESSION 1: MONDAYS 1/25, 2/1, and 2/8

Boys and Girls Born 2013 and 2014: Session is at 5 p.m.

Boys and Girls Born 2010, 2011, and 2012: Session is at 6 p.m.

See PIONEERS, page 8

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Church News

Local pastors offer sermons

Matters of Faith Pt. 2

Last week we established that faith-generally speaking-can be defined as a Godward confidence or trust. This week I would like to elaborate upon a statement made in the preceding publication. Namely, Christians are to exercise faith in the person, promises and principles of the Lord.

1) Faith in His Person

We are to exercise faith in the person of God (i.e., His divine character and nature). Scripture goes to great lengths to reveal the attributes and defining qualities of the Lord. Please consider the following non-exhaustive selection:

A) He is Holy (Exalted Above all Creation and Perfect in All His Ways)

Exodus 15:11 (NIV)

11 Who among the gods is like you, Lord? Who is like you-majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders?

B) He is Immutable (Unchanging and Perfect in All His Ways)

Malachi 3:6a

6 "I the Lord do not change . . ."

C) He is Omnipotent (Able to Accomplish All that He Purposes)

Jeremiah 32:27

27 "I am the Lord, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?"

D) He is Omniscient (All-Knowing and Beyond the Need for Instruction)

Hebrews 4:13

13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

E) He is Just (Given to the Judgment of Evil)

Nahum 1:2-3a

2 The Lord is a jealous and avenging God; the Lord takes vengeance and is filled with wrath.

The Lord takes vengeance on his foes and vents his wrath against his enemies.

3 The Lord is slow to anger but great in power; the Lord will not leave the guilty unpunished.

F) He is Gracious (Willing to Pardon Sin and Extend Unmerited Favor)

John 3:16

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

G) He is Loving (Unconditionally Affectionate)

1 John 4:8b

8 . . . God is love.

H) He is Faithful (Trustworthy, Reliable and True)

Hebrews 13:5 (cf. Deut. 31:6)

"Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

Of course, we could go on-and-on regarding the nature of God as posited in Scripture. Yet are these things that we merely assent to or truths that we are sure and certain of? To what degree have you placed your confidence in the realities outlined herein? Let us cultivate faith in His divine person!

2) Faith in His Promises

We are to exercise faith in the promises of God. Do you realize that the Word of God is replete with His promises! What promise(s) of the Lord are you trusting in today? What are you actively believing for as you contemplate the remarks of this minister?

A) Are You Trusting in His Promise to Save?

Romans 10:9

9 If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him

from the dead, you will be saved.

B) Are You Trusting in His Promise for Peace?

John 14:27

27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

C) Are You Trusting in His Promise to Provide?

Philippians 4:19

19 . . . my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

D) Are You Trusting in His Promise to Lead and Guide?

Proverbs 3:5-6

5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;

6 in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Let us cultivate faith in the promises of God. After all, He who promised is faithful (cf. Heb. 10:23)!

3) Faith in His Principles

Lastly, we are to exercise faith in His principles (i.e., His commandments and moral precepts that are meant to govern life and living). To what degree are you sure and certain that His ways are trustworthy and true? To what degree do you believe that Father truly knows best? I posit that one of the reasons we so flagrantly disobey Him is our deep-seated belief that we know better. This is a dangerous game to play!

Proverbs 14:12

12 There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.

Christ taught that the body of His teaching-His Word-was a trustworthy, sure and certain foundation:

Matthew 7:24-27

24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. 26 But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. 27 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

In closing, everyone believes in something-whether it be religious or secular in nature. I would call you to place your faith in the person, promises and principles of Christ. You will find them a suitable foundation for time and eternity! Thank you for taking the time to read this publication. Feel free to check us out online at www.NewLifeBarre.org or visit us in person each Sunday at 10:30am (COVID-19 protocols are presented on the aforementioned website). We hope to see you soon!

Pastor James Foley

*New Life Assembly of God
South Barre*

Second Sunday after Epiphany

"Lord, Speak to Me"

Our services can be found on our website at www.barrechurch.com and Facebook page

Scripture Reading:
1 Samuel 3 v 1 - 10

I. Introduction:

It is such a relief when we are faced with a difficult situation,

whether at home, at the workplace, among friends, at church, to have someone say, I can help you, I think we can do this or that to solve our problems. It is great to receive a phone call and help that can lead us out of a challenging situation. Sometimes we also receive the call that presents us with a problem that needs to be conveyed to others for discussion and resolution. That is not the kind of call or message we like to hear! What was the message that Samuel received here in our passage, and what would the impact be?

II. To be called when the word of God was not being heard.

Samuel was a young man, when he was taken under the wing of the High Priest Eli and learned from him in the temple. There was a lot of religious activity going on during that time, alongside nationwide idolatry, corruption, and moral decline. The word of the Lord was rare, meaning it was not spoken to someone like a Moses or a Ruth, who would speak to the people of Israel about their ways. Likewise, there were not many visions received by prophets. It is within this context that this young man is called by God, three times, before he would understand how Yahweh entered the space of humanity. He thought it was Eli calling him, and by the third time Eli himself realized that something greater was going on. There must have been something in Samuel's face or eyes or voice that helped Eli see that something out of the ordinary was going on. Eli instructed him to lie down again and should he hear the voice again, to tell the Lord, "Speak, your servant is listening", which he did.

The message Samuel received by God was not the most pleasant one. We read about that in verses 11 - 21. It was a message to Eli, the High Priest, whose sons were acting in contempt against the Lord. Eli knew about it, and God will therefore judge him and his family for what they had done. Young Samuel had to convey this message to Eli, who accepted this word spoken by God.

III. Speak to me, Lord

Samuel's calling was a sign of God's judgment, but also God's grace, ushering in a period where God's voice and message would again be heard and received by the prophets. It would also be the beginning of an era, where the people of Israel would be confronted by their need to move away from the old traditional tribal confederacy, and to have a monarchy, like the surrounding nations. Samuel would be the last of the judges during that period and would introduce the period of the prophets. He himself is being called a judge/prophet by some. He would settle legal disputes, would become a great military leader and a prophet. He was born to a barren mother, Hannah, who called him Samuel, meaning, she asked for him, and committed his life to God. He would anoint Saul as the first King, followed by David.

While there was pressure on Samuel by the people to move away from the old way, a charismatic movement, towards a centralized and stable government, he warned them that it could lead to tyranny. They insisted on becoming a monarchy because they wanted to be like those other nations. In doing so, they rejected Yahweh as their King, says the Lord in 1 Samuel 8 verse 7. There was this ongoing struggle within and among the people of Israel to be in relationship with Yahweh, but also to be like the rest

of the nations.

Samuel was called as a lightning rod to Eli and his family, but also to the people of Israel, who ought not to be like the rest of the nations, but to be a people of the Covenant. He was called to fight for the Spirit of Yahweh among the people of Yahweh. He would say, speak to me, Lord, because your servant is listening.

IV. Conclusion

We are living in a modern era, where it is easier to say, I received a phone call from someone who helped me with a problem, or conveyed an important message to me, rather than to say we have been called by God, or that you have heard God's voice. God does, however, speak to all of us in different ways, in ways we can hear. When we feel called to volunteer on committees, or to be in the choir, or on the church committee, deacons,

Sunday school and so forth, we say yes to that silent call that comes during the night, or in conversation with a fellow church member. God speaks to us always! The question is whether we can hear that voice. Do we have an Eli helping us recognize the voice of God?

When I was sixteen, it was my mother who in a matter-of-fact voice, told me, it is God speaking to you, my child. That was extremely helpful for a sixteen-year-old to know that!

In our calling to be children of God, we receive messages that are specific to us individually, and as a church. One thing we must remember, is that God's call is about love, and compassion, justice, and peace and for the healing of humanity. Everything we speak and do, must fall within that framework of who God is, and what God wants for us as a world and human beings. Sometimes the message is easy and comfortable and loving, but other times not so. Sometimes we are called to speak truth, justice, and to let others know when they are not on the path of God. God does not just call us to do our volunteer work in and for the church. God also speaks to us about how to live and be with one another, and sometimes we must bring those messages to those who need to hear it. Sometimes those messages hurt the ones we speak to, as was the case with Samuel and Eli, but we have no choice than to convey them. That is God's voice and work in our lives.

How open are we to hear God's voice, the call in the middle of the night, or during a work lunch, or in church? The extraordinary call that reminds us of our purpose in this world, the call that nudges us to bring a message of peace and healing, a message that is necessary, but uncomfortable, the call that requires from us to bring about the change where we are, within ourselves, our families, our communities, our church, our country, and this world that needs so much repair and healing today. When we realize that a voice is speaking, something like a divine calling is happening to us, let us say, Lord, speak to me.

God bless us all.

Amen
Pastor Margaret Keyser
Barre Congregational Church

Barre Gazette OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

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Barre Gazette

Tri-Parish Community Church news

NEW BRAINTREE — The Tri-Parish Community Church will meet at the New Braintree Congregational Church on Sunday, Jan. 24 at 10 a.m. The service will be led by Deacon Jennifer Pollard. At the back of the sanctuary is a large box marked "Helping Hands," which is used for the Gilbertville food pantry to call attention to the need for personal care and hygiene items (shampoo, hand soap,

toothpaste, etc.) as well as food items.

The Tri-Parish Community Church annual meeting is scheduled for Feb. 7 right after the Sunday service in the New Braintree Congregational Church. Feb. 14 is set aside as the alternate date in case of inclement weather. Officers and members of the Tri-Parish Committee will be elected, as well as voting on the budget and a membership bylaw change. All are encouraged to attend this important meeting.

Polish plate dinner offers curbside pickup Feb. 13

WARE — St. Mary's Church, 57 South St. will be having a pre-order sale of a Polish plate dinner. The plate will consist of three pierogi, one golombek, kielbasa, kapusta and Polish bread. Cost of the meal is \$15.

Curbside pickup will be Saturday, Feb. 13 in the parking lot behind St. Mary's Church. Purchasers will be designated a pickup time when placing their

order. Payment should be the exact amount, either check made out to St. Mary's Church or cash and placed in an envelope with name, phone number and payment amount. People may call Sylvia at 413-436-9268 or Diane at 413-967-5207 with questions and/or to order. All orders must be received by Sunday, Feb. 7. Snow date will be Sunday, Feb. 14.

Boston Children's and Baystate Health collaborate

BOSTON/SPRINGFIELD – Boston Children's Hospital and Baystate Health have formed a collaboration that will improve patient access to highly specialized pediatric care and strengthen the coordination of care between Boston Children's and Baystate Children's Hospital in Springfield.

The collaboration will provide patients throughout western Massachusetts with improved access to pediatric specialty care at Baystate Children's Hospital and it will streamline care planning among providers at Boston Children's and Baystate Children's. The collaboration anticipates that the two hospitals will jointly develop pathways to ensure that children and adolescents get the right care in the right setting. In some instances, Boston Children's clinicians will be available to provide care at Baystate Children's.

"As the leading children's hospital in western Massachusetts, Baystate Children's has long partnered with the community to advance the health and well-being of all children from prevention to critical care. Today we are delighted to build upon our exceptional care for families through a collaboration with the much-respected Boston Children's Hospital, which will provide additional clinical expertise when needed for our young patients," said Dr. Mark A. Keroack, president and CEO of Baystate Health.

Dr. Charlotte Boney, Chair

of the Department of Pediatrics at Baystate Children's Hospital said, "This collaboration acknowledges and strengthens the close working relationship with Boston Children's Hospital that we have enjoyed for many years. This collaboration will facilitate our continued ability to keep specialty care local so that children and families have access to a broad range of high-quality, affordable services right here in western Massachusetts. We look forward to exploring other opportunities that will strengthen our collaboration to serve our mutual missions of patient care, medical education and community service."

"At Boston Children's, we are committed to providing comprehensive pediatric care -- close to home whenever possible -- to patients and families throughout Massachusetts," said Sandra L. Fenwick, CEO of Boston Children's Hospital. "This collaboration will strengthen the ability of two great institutions to improve access to the highest quality care for the patients and families we look forward to serving together."

The collaboration builds on the strong working relationship that currently exists between the two hospitals. The two hospitals already work collaboratively in cardiology, neurology and dermatology, and by enhancing medical education, remote consults, information technology and other initiatives, the two institutions will be better able to coordinate care for their patients.

RICHARD TRIO

died unexpectedly on January 5th and never had the chance to have a last conversation with his friends and family in Barre, but I believe this is what he would have said to you :

TOUCHING SHOULDERS

*There's a comforting thought at the end of the day
when I'm weary and lonely and sad,
that sort of grips hold of my crusty old heart
and bids it be merry and glad;
it gets in my soul and it drives out the blues,
and finally thrills through and through,
it is just a sweet memory that chants the refrain
"I'm glad I touched shoulders with you!"
Did you know you were brave,
did you know you were strong?
Did you know there was one leaning hard?
Did you know that I waited and listened and
prayed and was cheered by your simplest word?
Did you know that I longed for that smile on
your face, for the sound of your voice ringing true?
Did you know that I grew stronger and better
because I touched shoulders with you?
I am glad that I lived, that I battled and strove for
the place that I knew I must fill, I am thankful for
sorrow I met with a grin, what fortune had sent,
good or ill, I might not have been wealthy,
I might not have been great,
But I know I was always quite true,
For I had in in my life that courage you gave
when I once rubbed shoulders with you.*

Mary Reynolds, *Rich's companion*
omadonmary@verizon.net

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Public Safety

Barre Police Log

Sunday, Jan. 10
11:53 a.m. Falls Ruggles Lane – Ambulance Signed Refusal
7:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued
7:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued
7:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued
7:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop West Street – Citation Issued
7:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Barre Road – Prisoner Bailed
Arrest: Ashley M. Murray, 33, Rindge, NH
Warrant
8:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop West Street – Written Warning
8:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Wauwinet Road – Citation Issued
9:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Barre Road – Criminal Complaint
Summons: Austri E. Samuelson, 18, New Braintree
Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle
9:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop West Street – Citation Issued
10:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop West Street – Citation Issued
10:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Street – Citation Issued
Summons: David A. Acevedo Galicia, 39, Worcester
Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle
10:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued
11:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Street – Citation Issued

Monday, Jan. 11
3:53 p.m. Overdose/Poisoning Adams Street – Transported to Hospital
9:33 p.m. Larceny/Theft Pleasant Street – Officer Advised
10:29 p.m. Sick/Unknown Worcester Road – Transported to Hospital

Tuesday, Jan. 12
6:24 p.m. Choking Nichols Road – Services Rendered

Wednesday, Jan. 13
6:10 a.m. 911 – Hang-up/Misdial/ Abandoned/Silent West Street – Transported to Hospital

Thursday, Jan. 14
9:31 a.m. Falls Valley Road – Transported to Hospital
1:35 p.m. Unwanted Party Mechanic Street – Services Rendered
3:31 p.m. Disturbance West Street – Officer Spoke to Party
6:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop West Street – Citation Issued
6:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Street – Citation Issued
7 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Street – Citation Issued
7:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Street – Citation Issued
7:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Adams Road – Citation Issued
7:30 p.m. Unwanted Party West Street – Report Filed
7:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued
7:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pleasant Street – Citation Issued
8:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Barre Road – Citation Issued
8:21 p.m. Assist Other Police Department Oakham – Transported to Hospital
8:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Barre Road – Citation Issued
8:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued
9:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Valley Road – Citation Issued
9:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Street – Citation Issued

Friday, Jan. 15
11:35 a.m. Sick/Unknown Edward Lane – Transported to Hospital
11:36 p.m. Trauma South Street – Ambulance Signed Refusal
2:54 p.m. Fraud/Forgery Worcester Road – Officer Spoke to Party
7:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pleasant Street – Citation Issued
7:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Street – Citation Issued
7:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Vernon Avenue – Citation Issued
7:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Valley Road – Citation Issued
8:03 p.m. Fraud/Forgery South Street – Officer Spoke to Party
8:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Street – Citation Issued
8:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South

Street – Citation Issued
8:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Street – Citation Issued
9:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Valley Road – Citation Issued
9:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Valley Road – Citation Issued
9:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Street – Citation Issued
9:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Vernon Avenue – Citation Issued
9:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop West Street – Citation Issued
11:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued
11:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Wheelwright Road – Citation Issued

Saturday, Jan. 16
12:01 a.m. Structure Fire Exchange Street – Fire Extinguished
1 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Barre Road – Citation Issued
9:18 a.m. Motor Vehicle Collision-Fire Hubbardston Road – Report Filed
5:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision – Hit and Run Adams Street – Ambulance Signed Refusal
7:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
7:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Barre Road – Citation Issued
7:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Street – Citation Issued
8:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
8:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Vernon Avenue – Citation Issued
8:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Barre Road – Citation Issued
8:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued
9:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Valley Road – Services Rendered
Arrest: Seth D. Bigelow, 36, South Barre
OUI-Liquor or .08%, 2nd Offense; Inspection/Sticker, No; Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle
South Barre

Sunday, Jan. 10
11:10 a.m. Harassment Trafalgar Square – Officer Spoke to Party

Monday, Jan. 11
12:34 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem Fir Street – Referred to Other Agency

Hubbardston Police Log

Sunday, Jan. 10
8:09 a.m. Suspicious Person/ Vehicle Pitcherville Road – Vehicle Towed

Monday, Jan. 11
7:12 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem Streeter Road – Transported to Hospital
7:29 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem Lombard Road – Referred to Other Agency

Tuesday, Jan. 12
9:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision-Fire Brigham Street – Investigated

Wednesday, Jan. 13
11:01 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Citation Issued
Summons: Jennifer A. Eagan, 36,

Hubbardston
Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle
2:05 p.m. License Check Main Street – Arrest(s) Made
Summons: Russell C. Wead, 89, Hubbardston
License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With
3:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Madison Way – Citation Issued
9:22 p.m. Fraud/Forgery Shawnee Way – Officer Advised

Thursday, Jan. 14
10:49 a.m. Complaint Worcester Road – Information Given
5:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Criminal Complaint
Summons: Jeffrey P. Howard, 45, Barre

License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With

Friday, Jan. 15
3:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Williamsville Road – Prisoner Bailed
Arrest: Andrew W. Richard, 50, Leominster
Warrant
9:30 p.m. Disturbance Main Street – Officer Spoke to Party
11:31 p.m. Sick/Unknown Madison Way – No Fire Service Necessary

Saturday, Jan. 16
9:10 a.m. Motor Vehicle Collision-Fire Old Boston Turnpike – Report Filed
11:30 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Gardner Cutoff Road – Citation Issued

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of Jan. 11-18, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 64 building/property checks, 22 directed/area patrols, nine radar assignments, 12 traffic controls, two animal calls, 27 motor vehicle stops, eight emergency 911 calls and two scams in the town of Hardwick.

Wednesday, Jan. 13
7:41 p.m. 911 – Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations Lower Road – Could Not Locate

Thursday, Jan. 14
1:04 a.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Turkey Street – Transported to Hospital

10:54 a.m. Phone – Scam Barre Road – Spoken To
3:02 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
3:23 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Church Street – Citation Issued
3:46 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
6:26 p.m. 911 – Medical Emergency High Street – Services Rendered
6:31 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning

Friday, Jan. 15
6:25 p.m. Phone – Motor Vehicle Accident Main Street – Officer Handled
9:07 p.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Joslyn Road – Transported to Hospital

Saturday, Jan. 16
5 a.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Broad Street – Transported to Hospital
11:36 a.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Old Petersham Road – Taken/Referred to Other Agency
4:14 p.m. 911 – Fire, Auto Hall Road – Services Rendered

Sunday, Jan. 17
11:29 a.m. Phone – Scam Upper Church Street – Services Rendered
1:10 p.m. Phone – Safety Hazard Hardwick Road – Services Rendered
5:48 p.m. Phone – 911/Hang-up Call Old Petersham Road – Services Rendered

Rutland Police Log

Sunday, Jan. 10
12:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision-Fire Main Street – Vehicle Towed
11:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
11:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pleasantdale Road – Criminal Complaint
Summons: Daniel A. Chaput, Jr., 20, Spencer
Speeding Rate of Speed Exceeding Posted Limit; License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With
11:36 p.m. Sick/Unknown Britney Drive – Services Rendered
11:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Maple Avenue – Written Warning

Monday, Jan. 11
12:03 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
12:17 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
12:47 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Written Warning
10 a.m. 911- Hang-up/Misdial/ Abandoned/Silent Miles Road – Officer Spoke to Party
10:27 a.m. Threats Newman Drive – Officer Spoke to Party
Summons: Nicholas J. Beck, 19, Rutland
Threat to Commit Crime/Murder
8:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision-Fire Charnock Hill Road – Transported to Hospital
8:54 p.m. Sick/Unknown Maple Avenue – Transported to Hospital

Tuesday, Jan. 12
12:56 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
1:24 a.m. Breathing Difficulty Barre Paxton Road – Transported to Hospital

8:35 a.m. Vandalism Bernard Road – Referred to Other Agency
9:33 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
9:45 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Written Warning
10:10 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Paxton Road – Written Warning
1:28 p.m. Breaking and Entering Past Residential East County Road – Report Filed
2:57 p.m. Welfare Check Campbell Street – Report Filed
5:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Written Warning
6:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision-Fire Main Street – Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, Jan. 13
1:26 p.m. Disorderly Conduct Main Street – Party Departed Without Incident
3:11p .m. Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Paxton Road – Citation Issued
4:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
8:16 p.m. Unwanted Party Birchwood Road – Report Filed

Thursday, Jan. 14
12:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision-Fire Main Street – Ambulance Signed Refusal
4:26 p.m. Strove (CVA) Gaffney Road – Transported to Hospital
8:11 p.m. Fire, Investigation River Road – Investigated
9:35 p.m. Noise Violation, Party Memorial Drive – Officer Spoke to Party

Friday, Jan. 15
3:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pleasantdale Road – Written Warning

4:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Wachusett Street – Written Warning
7:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Paxton Road – Written Warning
11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
11:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Min Street – Written Warning
11:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Central Tree Road – Written Warning

Saturday, Jan. 16
12:20 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Edson Avenue – Written Warning
12:50 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Maple Avenue – Written Warning
12:59 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
1:10 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
11:31 a.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problems Autumn Wood Drive – Transported to Hospital
3:51 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pleasantdale Road – Written Warning
9:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Wachusett Street – Written Warning
9:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pleasantdale Road – Written Warning
11:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
11:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
11:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
11:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Watson Lane – Citation Issued
11:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning

Sunday, Jan. 17
6:22 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident Barre Paxton Road – No Fire Service Necessary

Oakham Police Log

Monday, Jan. 11
9:58 a.m. Health Hazard New Braintree Road – Information Taken

Thursday, Jan. 14
11:41 a.m. Suspicious Person/ Vehicle Adams Road – Investigated
4:26 p.m. Stroke (CVA) Gaffney Road – Transported to Hospital
10:13 p.m. Suspicious Activity Spencer Road – Report Filed

Friday, Jan. 15
2:28 p.m. Fire, Chimney Robinson Road – Fire Extinguished

3:16 p.m. Fire, Smoke Investigation Barre Road – Investigated
5:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident Worcester Road – Report Filed
5:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident Worcester Road – Report Filed

Saturday, Jan. 16
5 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued
5:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued
5:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued
5:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop

Worcester Road – Citation Issued
6 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued
6:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued
6:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued
7:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued
8:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued
8:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop North Brookfield Road – Citation Issued
8:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued

New Braintree Police Log

During the week of Jan. 11-18, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 20 building/property checks, 25 directed/area patrols, 10 radar assignments, nine traffic controls and four motor vehicle stops in the town of New Braintree.

Monday, Jan. 11

10:29 a.m. Cellular – Trespass Cemetery Road – Report Taken

Tuesday, Jan. 12
7:59 a.m. Phone – Harassment Cemetery Road – Negative Contact
8:48 p.m. Phone – Disturbance Dennis Whitney Road – Services Rendered

Wednesday, Jan. 13
8:19 a.m. Phone – Medical Alarm Hardwick Road – Spoken To

Saturday, Jan. 16
12:42 p.m. Phone – Suspicious Activity Cemetery Road – Checked/ Secured

Public Notices

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester MA, 01608
Docket No. WO21P0011PM
In the matter of: Alan R Kossack Of: Barre, MA RESPONDENT (Person to be Protected/ Minor)
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 & 5-405
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Elder Services of Worcester Area Inc.** of Worcester, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Alan R Kossack** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that **Anita Palmaccio** of Lancaster, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before **10:00 a.m. on the return date of 02/02/2021.** This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.
Witness, Hon. **Leilah A Keamy**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: January 05, 2021
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate 01/21/2021

WO21P0010PM
In the matter of: Alan R Kossack Of: Barre, MA RESPONDENT (Person to be Protected/ Minor)
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Elder Services of Worcester Area Inc.** of Worcester, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Alan R Kossack** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Anita Palmaccio** of Lancaster, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.
The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before **10:00 a.m. on the return date of 02/02/2021.** This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.
Witness, Hon. **Leilah A Keamy**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: January 05, 2021
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate 01/21/2021

by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.
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Witness, Hon. **Leilah A Keamy**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: January 05, 2021
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New Braintree Conservation Commission Public Meeting
New Braintree Conservation Commission will hold a Public Meeting on **February 09, 2021 at 7:15 p.m.** at the New Braintree Town Hall to act on the following:
Eric and Brittany Comeau are filing a Request for Determination to build a single family home on Worcester Rd., New Braintree, Lot 9, Assessors Map 406.
The public is invited to attend.
01/21/2021

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1

Email all notices to notices@turley.com

2

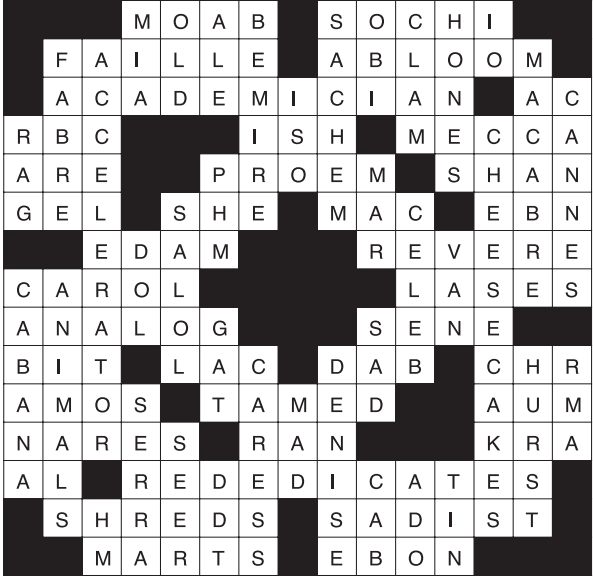
Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.

3

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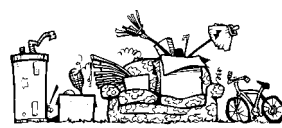
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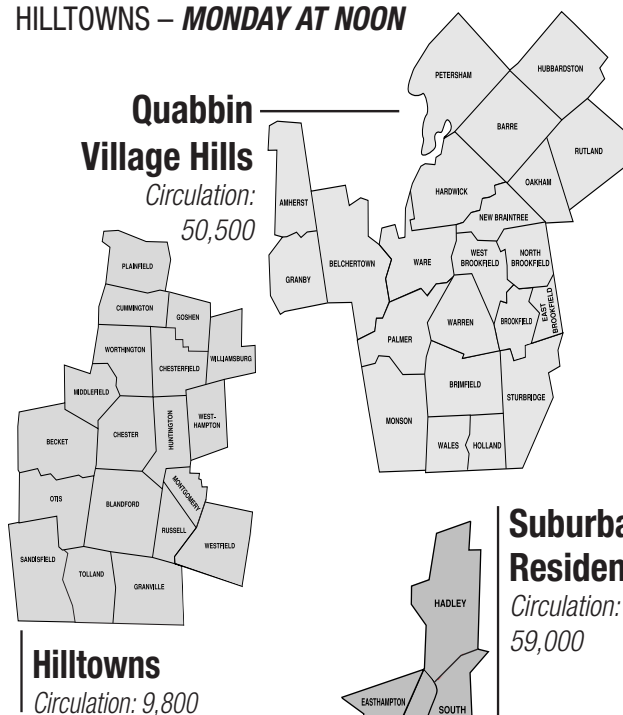
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“We are still seeing an increased need at all our hospitals. This combined with the additional cost for supplies we need to keep everyone safe has been a serious challenge. This grant has helped us continue to serve the pets that need help most.”

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Second Chance is a nonprofit 501(c)3 tax exempt organization that began in 1999 in East Brookfield and relies solely on donations from grants to operate. The organization operates an adoption center in East Brookfield, Community Veterinary Hospitals in North Brookfield, Springfield, and Worcester. Second Chance helps over 40,000 pets a year through adoption, spay/neuter, veterinary care, community outreach, educational outreach programs, training, and a pet food

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